

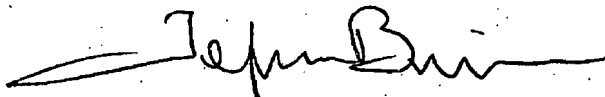
Application Serial No. 10/022,526

REMARKS

Claims 6-19 are allowed and Claims 20-23 are rejected. Applicant cancels Claims 20-23 without prejudice. By canceling Claims 20-23, the subject matter illustrated in Figure 8 (the method/apparatus for encoding an audio signal) is no longer claimed. For this reason, the specification is amended so as not to refer to Figure 8, which was never actually added to the application.

In view of the above, Applicant believes all claims are now patentable over the rejections of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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